

REMARKS

The Office Action in the above-identified application has been carefully considered and this amendment has been presented to place this application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reexamination and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2, 4-8, 10, 12-20, 22-26, 28, 30-40, 42-45, 47-49, 51-54, 56, 131-133, 135-139, 141-152, 154-158, 160-171, 173-178, 180-181, 183-188 and 190 are in the present application. It is submitted that these claims were patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. The changes to the claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. sections 101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled. Claims 11 and 29 are canceled.

Claims 1-2, 4-8, 10-20, 22-26, 28-40, 42-45, 47-49, 51-54, 56, 131-133, 135-139, 141-152, 154-158, 160-171, 173-178, 180-181, 183-188 and 190 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Socher et al. (U.S. Patent 6,446,060). However, the present invention includes “attribute information specifying beginning positions of paragraphs, sentences and phrases making up the electronic document and associated pause periods to generate said speech read-out data.” (Claim 1; all independent claims contain similar limitations) The present invention add different pause periods to each of the paragraphs, sentences, and phrases, respectively. (Specification page 37, second

paragraph) The attribute information, including the pause periods, allows the document to be read-out in a natural speech pattern. Whereas, Socher only mentions the “syntactic structure of the text (e.g. sub-clauses)” (Column 7) and does not make distinctions between paragraphs, sentences, and phrases through the use of phrase periods as required in the present claims. Hence, Socher does not disclose an equivalent to the present invention’s attribute information. Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Socher fails to anticipate the present invention and the rejected claims should now be allowed.

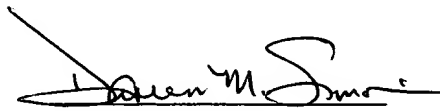
In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application as now presented is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

No additional fees are deemed to be required for the filing of this amendment, but if such are, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darren M. Simon", is written over a horizontal line.

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